

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ANKARA 01854 121518Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 /083 W
-----084928 121520Z /53

O 121322Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1010
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS ANKARA 1854

BRUSSELS FOR USEBC; USINFO FOR IOP/M; IPS/PE; IBS/PN; IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TU, US
SUBJECT: TURKISH PRESS TRUMPETS CRIS ON US-TURKISH RELATIONS

REF: ANKARA 1852

1. MAJOR STORY IN TURKISH PRESS MARCH 12 IS NOT MONTREUX
SUMMIT BUT US-TURKISH RELATIONS. PRO-GOVERNMENT MILLIYET
AND OPPOSITION TERCUMAN HEADLINES THEIR FRONT PAGES
WITH "WE PROTESTED TO THE U.S." LEFTIST CUMHURIYET'S
SEVEN COLUMN HEADLINE IS "U.S. ATTITUDE CAUSED REACTION
AT MONTREUX." MASS CIRCULATION HURRIYET HEADS ITS
STORY WITH "A SHADOW FALLS OVER OUR RELATIONS WITH AMERICA."
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ANKARA 01854 121518Z

2. ALL STORIES ARE BASED ON TWO PIECES OF INFORMATION:
A) THE MFA PRESS RELEASE OF MARCH 11 CONCERNING THE
PROTEST MADE MARCH 10 ABOUT SECRETARY VANCE'S REPORTED
COMMENT LINKING ACTION ON THE US-TURKISH DCA WITH MONTREUX
DEVELOPMENTS AND TURKISH PROPOSALS ON CYPRUS (REFTEL); AND
B) PRIMIN ECEVIT'S COMMENTS TO JOURNALISTS IN MONTREUX.

3. FOLLOWING IS A COMPOSITE OF VARIOUS PRESS VERSIONS OF ECEVIT'S COMMENTS WHICH WERE OCCASIONED BY A REPORTER'S QUESTION ASKING FOR HIS REACTION TO THE STATEMENT MADE BY SECRETARY VANCE MARCH 9 BEFORE THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE. ECEVIT SAID "I RECEIVED NEWS OF VANCE'S STATEMENT WHILE I WAS HERE MEETING WITH PRIMIN CARAMANLIS. I RECEIVED IT WITH ASTONISHMENT AND CONCERN. I WAS PLEASED THAT PRIMIN CARAMANLIS AND I WERE AGREED TO TRY TO WORK OUT OUR PROBLEMS WITHOUT OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE. HOWEVER, I AM CONCERNED BY SOME NEWS WHICH HAS COME FROM THE US IN THE LAST FEW DAYS, ESPECIALLY THE STATEMENT BY VANCE WHICH YOU MENTIONED, WHICH SUGGESTS TO ME AMERICAN POLICY HAD EXTENDED EVEN TO THE POINT OF INVOLVING ITSELF IN THE TALKS AT MONTREUX. UNTIL NOW IT HAS BEEN CLAIMED THAT THE CONGRESS WAS MAINLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DIFFICULTIES IN IMPROVING TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS. HOWEVER, IN THE LAST FEW DAYS IN THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE CONGRESS, A POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE HAS BEEN MANIFESTED AND THE ADMINISTRATION HAS BEGUN TO SHOW SOME BEWILDERING CHANGES IN ATTITUDE. FOR EXAMPLE, THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS WROTE A LETTER SAYING THAT THEY WANTED THIS QUESTION RESOLVED IMMEDIATELY AND THAT THEY WERE AWAITING A DEFINITE INDICATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S INTENTIONS. UNFORTUNATELY THE ADMINISTRATION IN RESPONSE TO THIS DECIDED TO AWAIT THE OUTCOME OF GREEK-TURKISH TALKS AND DEVELOPMENTS ON CYPRUS

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 ANKARA 01854 121518Z

BEFORE MAKING ITS VIEWS KNOWN. THESE DEVELOPMENTS CAST A SHADOW OVER THE MONTREUX TALKS. TRUE, WE DID NOT TALK ABOUT THEM, BUT MY MIND WAS DISTRACTED BY THESE DEVELOPMENTS. IN MY OPINION, THE TALKS WITH CARAMANLIS WERE SUCCESSFUL DESPITE THIS AMERICAN ATTITUDE. UNTIL NOW AMERICAN AUTHORITIES HAVE TOLD US THAT CONGRESS IS TO BLAME FOR THE DIFFICULTIES IN TURKISH-US RELATIONS. NOW WE HAVE BEGUN TO DOUBT THIS. WE ARE SUSPICIOUS WHETHER THE TRUTH IS COMING FROM CONGRESS OR FROM THE ADMINISTRATION."

4. ASKED IF THIS DEVELOPMENT WOULD AFFECT TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS ECEVIT SAID, "CERTAINLY WE FEEL THE NEED TO REVIEW OUR POSITION ON A NUMBER OF MATTERS IN THE LIGHT OF THIS AMERICAN ATTITUDE." ASKED IF THIS DEVELOPMENT HAD AFFECTED THE TALKS WITH CARAMANLIS, ECEVIT SAID IT HAD NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL DESPITE THE AMERICAN ATTITUDE.

5. ECEVIT THEN WENT ON TO REVIEW HIS EARLIER MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY AND TO CONTRAST THE IMPRESSIONS RECEIVED THEN WITH RECENT STATEMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO THE SECRETARY. RHETORICALLY HE ASKED THE REPORTERS "WHAT ARE THE ADMINISTRATION'S INTENTIONS. DOES IT WANT THE

DCA OR NOT?" HE AGAIN REVIEWED DEVELOPMENTS OF THE LAST
FEW DAYS - THE ZABLOCKI LETTER, THE SILENCE OF THE ADMINISTRATION,
AND THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT BEFORE THE SENATE
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE. HE SAID HE BELIEVED THE
CHANGED ATTITUDE OF THE U.S. SUGGESTED BY THESE DEVELOPMENTS
COULD AFFECT GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENTS WITH
RESPECT TO CYPRUS. "I OFFICIALLY INFORMED THE U.S. OF MY
REACTION... THE U.S. HAS SUDDENTLY CHANGED ITS ATTITUDE.
I CANNOT UNDERSTAND THE REASON FOR THIS."
SPIERS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ANKARA01854
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780110-1144
Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780378/aaaacnyu.tel
Line Count: 125
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bc6174c8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 ANKARA 1852
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3358877
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH PRESS TRUMPETS CRIS ON US-TURKISH RELATIONS
TAGS: SOPN, TU, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bc6174c8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014